



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-3000

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

**MAR 26 2019**

Mr. Michael Best  
MuckRock  
DEPT MR 30907  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request  
FOIA Control No.: 17-FI-HQ-00395

Dear Mr. Best:

This letter acknowledges the Department of Housing and Urban Development's receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated December 16, 2016. Your requested records from 2015 and 2016 relating to or mentioning Ben Carson, including communications received from or sent to Mr. Carson, as well as emails mentioning him.

A search of the Department's email records by knowledgeable staff failed to locate any documents that would be responsive to your request. The Office of General Counsel shows the date range is prior to Secretary Ben Carson's HUD confirmation. Therefore, there are no responsive records for your request.

I am the official responsible for this determination based on information provided by the Department's Office of General Counsel. You may appeal this determination within 90 days from the date of this letter. If you decide to appeal, your appeal should include copies of your original request and this response, as well as a discussion of the reasons supporting the appeal. The envelope should be plainly marked to indicate that it contains a FOIA appeal and addressed to:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Ethics and Appeals Law Division  
Office of General Counsel  
451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 2130  
Washington, DC 20410

Telephone: (202) 708-3815

You may also submit your appeal online at:

[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_office/administration/foia/foiaappeals](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_office/administration/foia/foiaappeals).

In addition, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

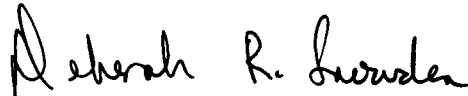
Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS  
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001

Telephone: 202-741-5770; Toll free: 1-877-684-6448  
Fax: 202-741-5769  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)

For your information, your FOIA request, including your identity and any information made available, is releasable to the public under subsequent FOIA requests. In responding to these requests, the Department does not release personal information, such as home address, telephone number, or Social Security number, all of which are protected from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 6.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Ms. Adrienne Harding at [adrienne.harding@hud.gov](mailto:adrienne.harding@hud.gov) or at (202) 402-3379. Thank you for your interest in the Department's programs and policies.

Sincerely,



Deborah R. Snowden  
Deputy Chief FOIA Officer  
FOIA Branch  
Office of the Executive Secretariat

Enclosure